

earth was hilled up around the trees. There is reason to believe that the latter method of protection saved that portion of the orchard, although the temperature must have been about 10° Fahrenheit on the 13th.

THE DUST IN THE ATMOSPHERE.

An excellent article on dust contributed by A. H. Thiessen, observer, to the February number of the Report of the Montana section, leads us to suggest that those interested in adding to our knowledge of this subject, should make use of the dust counter devised by Mr. John Aitken and then described by him on pages 734-754 of his article in Weather Bureau Bulletin No. 11, part 3. The original dust counter has received several successive modifications and in its present form has become a portable or pocket instrument which packs into a case about the size of a well filled cigar case; it can, we believe, be obtained at a comparatively slight cost by addressing Mr. Aitken, directly, at Darroch, Falkirk, Scotland.

THE UTILITY OF THE WEATHER BUREAU LIBRARY.

For several years past the Chief of the Weather Bureau has endeavored to eke out the limited facilities for study and scientific reading available at our regular Weather Bureau stations by circulating copies of certain journals devoted to the progress of science in general. In addition to this the attention of the observers at our regular stations should be called to the fact that if there is any book in the library of the Weather Bureau that they desire to consult, it can easily be sent to them for that purpose. It is desirable to make the library as useful as possible to the service.

Of course, books should not be kept out very long owing to the probability that others will also wish to see them, but it is a great deal better to have the use of the original memoir of an author, if only for two weeks, than to rely upon abstracts and reviews by others. The Weather Bureau observers are invited to make full use of the library in order to familiarize themselves with recent advances in meteorology and its applications to the needs of the community.

THE BLESSING OF COLD WEATHER.

The great cold wave of February gives occasion for some remarks under the above heading in the News and Courier, Charleston, S. C., February 26:

It is something to be proud of that we have seen zero and still live. * * * Mississippi and Louisiana may at least be reasonably certain that the yellow fever, which for the past two years has lingered in concealment, has been effectually slain by the cold. * * * Charleston will be all the better for the freezing process and the loss she has sustained in early vegetables and fruit will be more than compensated in other ways. * * * The loss falls on special individuals but the whole community is benefited.

It is fortunate that physicians have at least discovered that the old idea that warmth is essential to the cure of all kinds of lung diseases is a mistake and that they now recognize that cold, dry air will do more for the sufferers than the tropic climates of the south.

RECENT EARTHQUAKES.

Through the kindness of Commander N. Sebree, U. S. N., lighthouse inspector, Mr. John F. Ingersoll, keeper of the Point Sur Light station, 36° 25' N., 121° 55' W., on the coast of California, reports on the earthquake of February 7 as follows:

The tower is built on solid rock; the second assistant keeper was on watch in the tower, sitting down reading. There has been no earthquake here recently. The time when the shock was felt was 8:55 p. m., standard railway time, viz, one hundred and twentieth meridian time. The clock was compared with the Western Union clock in Monterey on the 9th. The shock only lasted one or two seconds. There was only one shock felt; it was very light and not noticed generally. There was no other cause than earthquake for the jar felt here. The jar came horizontally from the east; the clock in the tower faces the east and the jar caused the pendulum to strike the front and sides of the clock, but the clock did not stop.

February 8-9, several reports published in the Chicago papers state that earthquake shocks were felt about 11 p. m., February 8, and at 12:30 a. m., 1 a. m., 3 a. m., and between 3 a. m. and 4 a. m., also some time after 6 a. m. of the 9th.

Mr. J. J. Cox, forecast official, Weather Bureau, reports that several shocks, felt yesterday and this morning, may have been an earthquake, but are quite as likely to have been due to the freezing and cracking of huge icefields in the Lake.

February 9, several shocks are reported from Belen, N. Mex. February 13, light shocks at Napa and Sonoma, Cal.

February 13, an earthquake was felt distinctly at Lynchburg, Va., during the great blizzard of that morning; many persons were awakened, buildings shaken, and furniture moved; it was considered more violent than any that has been felt there in recent years.

February 13, at Mount Airy, N. C., at 4 a. m., lasting ten seconds; at Charlotte, N. C., at 4:30 a. m., oscillations from southeast to northwest.

On February 13, 4:30 a. m., the citizens of Winston, N. C., were awakened by four severe earthquake shocks.

February 13, an earthquake shock with grinding noise was felt at 4:35 a. m., (evidently eastern standard time) at Radford, in southwestern Virginia. A distinct shock was also felt at Martinsville, Henry County, Va., and the shock was felt throughout that part of the State. An earthquake of from 5 to 10 seconds duration was felt in eastern Tennessee at 3:30 a. m., of the same date (evidently central standard time).

Professor Marvin states that no earthquake was recorded on the Washington seismograph on this date.

February 24, light shock at San Bernardino.

BACK NUMBERS OF THE MONTHLY WEATHER REVIEW.

Prof. Charles E. Thorne, on behalf of the library of the Ohio Agricultural Experiment Station, at Worcester, Wayne County, Ohio, states that he has a number of odd numbers of the MONTHLY WEATHER REVIEW for the years 1876-93, and desires, by exchange or otherwise, to complete the files of the library of that station by obtaining the complete volumes for the years previous to 1881, and individual numbers for subsequent years, as follows:

1881. February, March, May, December, Summary.

1882. All after July.

1883. Summary.

1884. February, August, December, Summary.

1885. All after June.

1886. The entire volume.

1887. January, February, May, Summary.

1888. Summary.

1890. January.

1894. June.

THE WEATHER BUREAU AND THE ICE BUSINESS.

We take pleasure in noting that, according to The Ice World, a journal published at Albany in the interest of the